



REMARKS

This amendment is offered in response to the Office Action of October 15, 2001.

The Examiner has objected to the drawings as not illustrating the seal area of the narrow web. It is respectfully submitted that the various seal areas correspond to the areas of "heat seal materials 30" shown in Figure 1. It is therefore respectfully submitted that the objection to the drawings under 37 C.F.R. §1.83(a) has been overcome.

Proposed drawing corrections to Figure 8 to remove the duplicate numeral 26 are enclosed herewith. Formal drawings will be provided after Notice of Allowance. No new matter has been added. It is respectfully submitted that this overcomes the objection of numbered paragraph 3 of the Office Action.

The Examiner has rejected Claims 14 and 16 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, on the grounds that there is "no disclosure which would enable one of ordinary skill in the art to seal the webs of zipper strip 10 to the sheet material without sealing the webs to each other." However, it is respectfully submitted that, after review of the cited objective of the invention and further in view of study of the specification and drawings, it would have been known to one

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skilled in the art to use a separator (such as is disclosed in U.S. Patent No. 3,853,671 or 3,948,705, copies enclosed).

Similarly, it would have been known to use a heat resistant coating in appropriate selected locations or to closely control the sealing heat so that enough heat is provided to seal one zipper web to the film, but not enough to go through the first web to the second web.

The Examiner rejected Claims 14 and 16 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, on the grounds of allegedly no original disclosure of the language in the last paragraph of claim 14. Similar to the above response with respect to the drawings objections, it is respectfully submitted that the placement of the "heat seal materials 30" provides such a disclosure.

For all of the reasons above, it is respectfully submitted that all of the presently pending claims are in immediate condition for allowance. The Examiner is respectfully requested

to withdraw his rejections of the claims, to allow the claims,
and to pass this application to early issue.

Respectfully submitted,



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